Klan kids birthday parties

Dysfunctional

Family Reading

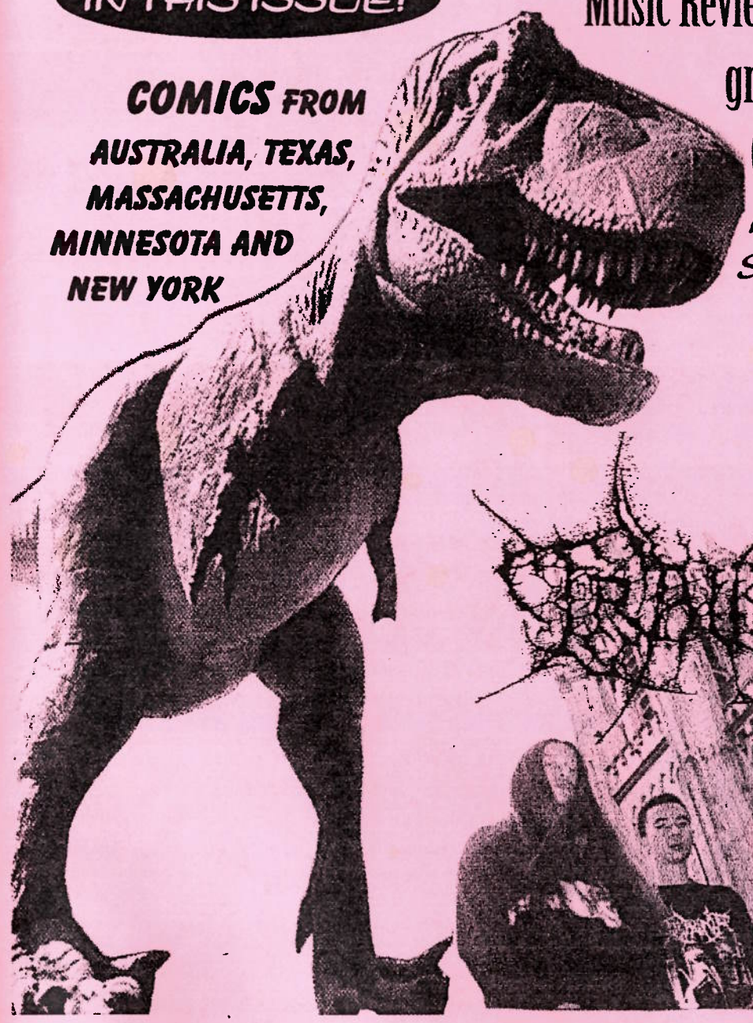
ISSUE#8 UNDERGROUND METAL AND COMICS FREE !!

IN THIS ISSUE!

COMICS FROM AUSTRALIA, TEXAS, MASSACHUSETTS, MINNESOTA AND NEW YORK

Music Reviews of you favorite Underground, Death, Black, Thrash, Goth bands on the planet!!

Interviews with:
Skinless
Sepsism
and Trauma
Plus Zine reviews label directory and Help Wanted ads!!



Issue #8 is finally underway!!

There have been many things that have attributed to the delay in releasing this issue (here we go again) most recently the program I was using for the zine locked up and just wouldn't do a goddamn thing, so I had to start all over from scratch. Enough of the excuses, though. In this issue we have some cool cartoons from all over as well as tons of music reviews a few interviews and some other stuff for ya. We will hopefully be doing more interviews for upcoming issues and also bringing you more music and cartoonist news.

Due in large part to the fact that I work third shift, watch my 7 month old son during the day and expecting another little bundle this winter, DFR will be coming out quarterly.
It's not the way I would like it but it's not fair to everyone involved to expect DFR every two months and not have it when expected.

Dysfunctional Family Members

Steve Nelson, Scott Keough, Mike King, Rob Smith

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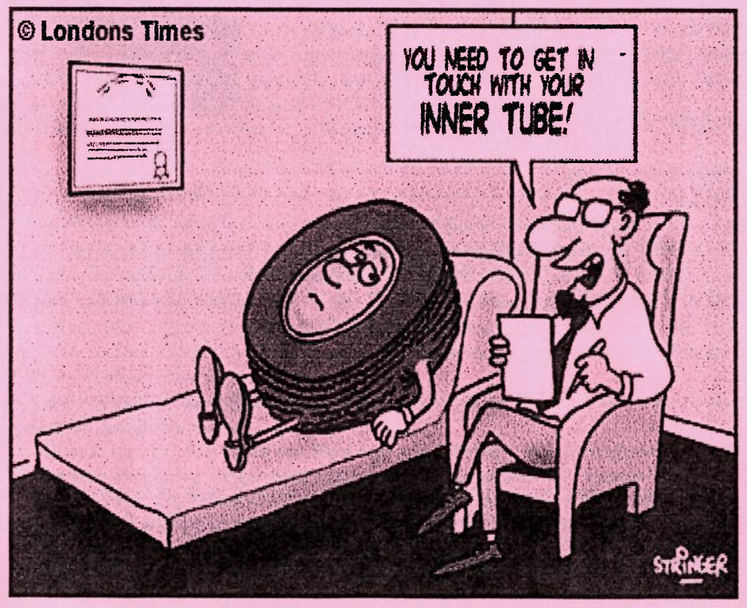
SHANE STRINGER

About Myself
My name is Shane Stringer and I have been drawing cartoons professionally since I left school in 1980.
I have worked for several Australian newspapers and magazines. I'm now under contract with London's Times / Panel Hollywood producing
work for companies such as E-Greetings and I'm supplying cartoons to the new Insultpro.com site.
I'm also the author of two books which are collections of favourites from my daily comic strip "Bunji
Cartoonist for hire
Maybe you'd like a caricature for a unique gift or some zany artwork to liven up your homepage, well, I'm your man.
Browse through the pages and drop me a line if I can help you out- prices are negotiable depending on the job.



I've produced artwork for album covers, childrens books, websites, newspapers and magazines, brochures and much more!

See more of Shanes work on ***Page 25*** *of this issue or visit his website at :*
www1.octa4.net.au/stringer/week.html

ALBUM REVIEWS

Abhorrance - *Ascension*
(Wild Rags)

This might seem a little dated but since I just received it I am going to review it anyway. Wild Rags re-pressed this onto CD but these three songs were originally on this Brazilian bands' '97 demo! Personally I think these three songs are pretty good. They are definitely good at writing Death Metal that is played in an aggressive manor and the vocals are damn killer! I'm just real curious to hear some of the bands' new stuff since it is almost three years later now! (Scott)

Abhorrance c/o Kleber R.General Glicerio, 3. 958-apt. 1615015-400 -EDIF. Maria Cecilia S.J. do Rio Preto-SP.-Brasil

Agathodaimon - *Higher Art of Rebellion*
(Nuclear Blast)

Eleven songs of Gothic/Black metal with no sign of any balls. Very middle-of-the-road and seems more like rock/metal at times than anything else. If you're looking for a CD showing the milder side of metal with the black metal style vocals than I would recommend this. I have listened to this many ,many times and I still can't get past the fact that in my house this would be mere background music. (Steve)

Angel Witch - *Resurrection*
(Crook'd Records)

A compilation of their 3 demo's from '87,'90, and '98 showing the progression of the band's music, however never breaking away from the thrash metal barriers. Ten songs in all (4/3/3) with some really cool guitar work and a sound, although not totally their own, that does separate them from most of the other thrash bands. The vocals however are the weak point of each demo. The best tunes here are "Twist of the Knife", "Slowly Sever" ('90) and "Worm" ('98). "Worm" is also on the 1994 I4NI demo featuring Angel Witch drummer/vox Tom Hunting, guitarist Jon Torres and ex Overkill/Skrew guitarist Bobby Gustafson. Definitely nothing new sounding but it's cool for the forgotten thrash fans. (Steve)

Atavism - *Craving for Flesh*
('99 demo)

Nothing fancy or polished going on here. Atavism is a two man band from Greece who play a raw and sickening style of Death in the vein of Mortician. Being a fan of that band I easily enjoyed this demo (as well as their first one Corpses Cataclysm). You get three tracks plus a Mortician cover and three songs recorded live as well. The sound quality and production aren't that great but what the fuck, this is the UNDERGROUND, ASSHOLE! (Scott)

Atavism 67 Thiron ST N. Ionia, 384 46 Volos, Greece

Beheaded - promo '99

Playing in the brutal NY style Death Metal is the Malta based band Beheaded. Bassist David recorded me this 5 song promo (along with their CD and older stuff) which totally caught me off guard. These island boys play extremely fierce, headbangin' Death with a lot of catchy riffs. Everything they do here is well done and the sound is killer even for a dubbed tape. Write this band and check out their brand of interesting, well written music, it's worth it! (Scott)

Beheaded c/o David Cachia 83 Pellegrinagg St Cospicua CSP 04 Malta

Blood Storm - *Pestilence from the Dragonstar*
(Soul Sold Music)

Could this be America's answer to the Scandinavian Black Metal assault? I think so! Blood Storm is full of raspy guitars blazing light speed riffs, sandpaper vocals and crazy, blasting drums. This really does sound like their from Norway or something with 9 non stop scriptures of evil. They also incorporate the big "pit parts", y'know the slow heavy riffs that used to insight merciless moshing before it became trendy and the local football heroes and steroid monsters thought it would be cool to just go in and pound on people. Anyway this is a great album for Black metal fans and should not be overlooked. (Steve)

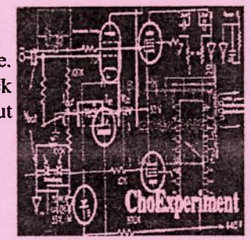
Cenotaph - *Puked Genital Purulency*
(Hammer Muzik)

Insanity, armageddon, pure devastation you name it this album has it! I got this on a tape trade and damn I've got to pick up the original CD (my dub is worn out!). I think this is the bands second CD. Contained on here is some hellish gore, grind with ultra low vocals and mega blasting drums. You could easily picture mass murdering sprees going on while listening to this. Definitely a worthy purchase to those who like their Death Metal on the extremely gory side as this Turkish band will solidly deliver! (Scott)

The Chasm - *Procession to the Infraworld*
(Dwell Records)

Here's some really cool Death Metal from Mexico's, The Chasm. The Chasm could easily be placed within the realms of Death metal heavyweights such as Death, Morbid Angel, Suffocation, Krisiun, etc. They have a lot of the darkness in the music itself not just in the lyrics. I love the broken chords and the Kerry King solos. This reminds me of Pestilence but not as muddled. My only problem with this disc is the double bass drums. MAKE THEM SOUND LIKE DOUBLE BASS DRUMS, not this clicky, pussy sounding annoyance like you're playing castanets or playing with a juice bottle cover! You're playing drums, let's hear them! This is my ONLY complaint about this album so go out and pick up Processions To the Infraworld. (Steve)

ChoExperiment -*CD demo*



OK here's a fucked up band. Four songs with an odd blend of metal, rock, and I'm not really sure what else. It's like Devo, Brutal Truth, B-52's and Billy Joel. All the songs are good and it kinda makes you want to check out these guys live just to see what might happen. Very different, very good and very interesting. Check it out for yourself, you'll be surprised! Why does Edward Scissorhands come to mind when I hear this? (Steve)

ChoExperiment 1688 Beacon St. Apt. B4, Brookline, MA 02445

Coffin Texts - *Gods of Creation, Death & Afterlife*
(Dwell Records)

Grating death metal from L.A. for only the true death metal fan. In the league of Malevolent Creation, Monstrosity and Nile, this creation is one to be praised. Coffin Texts IS what made death metal popular. Ferocious riffs, searing solos, heavy mosh parts and explosive drums and dynamics. Had this come out ten years ago CT would be at the top in a heartbeat, now it may take a little more but they are a strong contender for the Death metal throne. (Steve)

Dead Head - *Come To Salem*
(Hammerheart/Unveiling The Wicked)

Most of the songs here are a compilation of previous material I believe. I've always wanted to hear this Dutch band but never got a chance to. I assumed they were gone. I am proud to say that after hearing these 13 songs it was worth the long wait. Dead Head play brutal Thrash Metal mixed with Death Metal that reminds me of the early '90's (trust me that's a good thing!). Musically their double bass drumming with devastating guitar riffing is some of the best and the screamed vocals just give the songs that much more power. I hope these guys continue to play this Death/Thrash style because they are so fuckin' good at it! (Scott)

Deceased - *Supernatural Addiction*
(Relapse)

I love this! Excellent Death/thrash exuding power, melody, anger, and intelligence. Each song has been inspired from a horror story, movie or show and the inspiration for each song has been listed at the end of the respective song. Everything from The Tell-Tale Heart (Edgar Allen Poe), to the Twilight Zone, Tale from the Crypt, Trilogy of Terror, An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge (Ambrose Bierce), even The Blair Witch Project, etc., etc. Lyrics I find are the weakest part of almost every album and Deceased have made it one of the strongest parts. Everything about this album is great! Definitely on the best of 2000 list! (Steve)

Destruction - *All Hell Breaks Loose*
(Nuclear Blast)

DESTRUCTION HAVE RETURNED!! Searing on with 12 new songs sporting the same energy and excitement as in prior years with one very noticeable difference... the vocals. They are MUCH better now! That was always a drawback when listening to Destruction, the whiney, screechy fluctuating vocals that made you laugh whether you wanted to or not. Thrash Metal is back and back with a vengeance as this trio move on to reclaim their powerful position in the music realm that they once shared with bands like Slayer, Kreator, Tankard, Overkill, Death Angel, Blood Feast etc. Destruction are an 80's band with a modern sound not just rehashing old shit. Check it out, you'll be pleasantly surprised. (Steve)

Denile - *Autumn: Season of Dying*
(Double Down Records)

Hardcore in it's typical monotonous fashion. Moderate beat, heavy breakdown, moderate beat, goodnight. About as original as taking a dump yet not as entertaining. (Steve)

Devourment - *Molesting the Decapitated*
(United Gutteral)

Cool CD title huh? After a few good listens to this disc it is very clear that these Texans are not the most original Deathsters in the scene nor are they gonna break any innovation records, but this is still a heavy as fuck CD! They kind of remind me of early 1B and Suffocation as well. These vocals are awesomely low and the riffing is totally sick! If you're into *(cont.'d on page 6)*

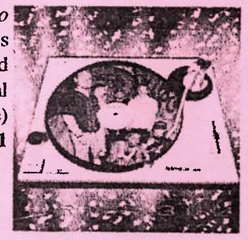
brutal death Metal in the sick side then you should cum when you hear this! (Scott)

Disassociate - *Imperfect World*
(M.I.A. Records)
NY hardcore/metal with Exit 13/Mortician-esque vocals. Very crusty sound with lots of samples. Raw to the bone, which I like but something just rubs me wrong about this band and always has. Parts of this disc I like namely the blasting, grinding tunes that sound like Blood Duster. The hardcore style is of the old Cro-mag/ Agnostic Front age so I should like this a lot... but for some reason it annoys me. (Steve)

Disinter - *Welcome to Oblivion*
(advance cassette)
Within the last six months this Chicago area band has made quite an impact on my ears. These dudes play excellent Death Metal and incorporate a wide variety of styles within their songs. Vocalist Zion sent me a dubbed copy of this forthcoming CD and the Improvements on it totally blew me away. This has got to be a must have when it does come out! Musically the band is of the old school style but they throw some curves at you every now and then like some doom parts or the heavy, grinding riffs too. I challenge you to find one lame riff here. Zion's vocals are just as unstable as the music as he likes to add some range to fit the songs. I can't stress enough how killer this band is! Be on the hunt for this disc when it gets released, you won't be sorry! (Scott)
Disinter c/o Zion 606 13th St. Sterling, IL 61081

Dismember - *Hate Campaign*
(Nuclear Blast)
More of the same type of stuff heard on past releases with the same buzzsaw guitar sound like Entombed. It's a cool CD but there is nothing new here. It's just eleven more songs from Dismember picking up where they left off...nothing more. (Steve)

Dismal Euphony - *Lady Ablaze* (EP)
(Napalm Records)
Gothic/atmos. type of stuff with the combined vocal duties of the gruff death-like style and the fluttering female wails that just really bring this CD down to the gutter. Omit her vocals and the band is still just a run-of-the-mill entity but at least they are more tolerable. Musically is where they have strength. It is basic mid-tempo riffing but carries itself well. They need to do something to accentuate their strengths not deplete them. Until then their euphonic concoctions will remain dismal. (Steve)



Drop 360 - *CD demo*
5 songs from Drop 360 run the gamut of metal/rap/hardcore and come out of it looking pretty good. It's Cypress Hill and Biohazard with a strong resemblance to another strong local band, Sleestack. Real good production, crisp sound and not over emphasizing any one style. Drop 360 uncover a nice blend of musical traits to give themselves something that is essential in the music biz... a sound of their own. (Steve)
Drop 360 c/o Sonix Soundz Prod. 297 Montello St. Brockton, MA 02302 (508) 588.9111

Dying Breed - *Fleshflower*
Well it's not the same Dying Breed I remember. They seem a lot better now with a Napalm Death sort of sound, the slower end that is. Guitar fweeps are plentiful as are the samples and the incessant slow/mid-pace tempo in each song. The bass is loud and a bit much in the mix but overall it's not that bad (yes that also means it's not that good). (Steve)

Excarnated - *Let The Hatred Manifest*
('98 demo)
This five song demo comes in from Australia where a majority of good bands have been cropping up. I like this tape for the most part due to its brutalness. Death/Grind galore with some cool vocals (low to higher pitched) are evident here. They use a drum machine which at times gets on my nerves but the heavy riffs and stomp-your-head attitude this band display will easily make up for that. If you like Mortician, Incantation or anything on the harsh side you should get in touch! (Scott)
Excarnated P.O. Box 5407 Mordialloc,3195 Victoria, Australia

Exposed Guts - *Ultimate Gore Assault*
(demo '99)
I really can't seem to figure out what the hell this band is doing. I find these songs to be quite lame and real cheesy! Yes they do play Death/Grind but it just didn't do anything for me so I'll pass. (Scott)
Exposed Guts c/o Markus Lempsch Op'n Spitol 22 59065 HAMM Germany

Forlorn - *Opus III AD Caelestis Res*
(Napalm Records)
Forlorn combine the styles of Dimmu Borgir, traditional Black Metal and even Therion keeping the tradi

tional Black Metal vocals throughout most of the album. Yet another Metal category has surfaced with the upheaval of many of the newer bands, this one is called Viking Metal. One thing that did stand out just looking at the cover is that it is more futuristic rather than depicting old Norwegian folklore. It seems a more mature release than others of this genre but they do speak of the old Scandinavian ways as most every other band has done. Forlorn is not as extreme as say Hecate Enthroned or Emperor but they do have a sound to separate them from most of the pack. The beginning of "Midnight Overture" sounds an awful lot like Old Man's Child but thats not to be held against them, just observed. This might take a little getting used to but it's not too bad. (Steve)

Gorgoroth - *Incipit Satan*
(Nuclear Blast)
Black Metal that musically is the same as any other band, with some exceptions like some pretty cool thrashy mosh riffs, but mostly the same. "Will to Power" is a trippy little ditty that breaks up the monotony with some monotony of it's own. "When love rages wild in my heart" actually mixes a little Goth tinge to the mix but being the last song it seems too little too late. It would also be the best song on the album. I would save my lunch money for something better. (Steve)

Grave Digger - *Excalibur*
(Nuclear Blast)
Thirteen songs of dragons, knights, medieval times, etc., etc. in the form of Ye Headbangers Metal. The packaging is amazing! Fans of Dio, Iron Maiden, Metal Church, Manowar, Savatage, etc. will get their rocks off with this one. Hark! The glory days of Metal are back! (Steve)

Herbert - *Steppin' Off to Eden*
(Fueled Up Records)
It's rock n' roll that sounds like a watered down version of Uncle Slam (Say Uncle or Die!). Not much at all to listen to, as a matter of fact... it sucks!! Stoner Rock has got to go! (Steve)

High On Fire - *The Art of Self Defense*
(Mans Ruin)
EGAD! More crap! Reminiscent of the heavy droning sound of Sleep, probably because this barge is guided by Matt Pike of Sleep, HOF is boring, loathsome "metal". Mind-numbing riffs that will put you into a coma halfway through the album. YAAAWWWNNN!!! Someone help...I'm...fading..... (Steve)

Himinbjorg - *In The Raven's Shadow*
(Red Stream)
Nasty sandpaper guitars and a snare with no "crack" are the first things evidently wrong with this disc. Yes it is Black Metal (or is this Viking Metal too) but it doesn't have the light speed riffing from start to finish and they do try to accompany a folk sound into the mix. Very boring and monotonous vocals whether clean or not. Don't bother with this one, it could give Oreck a run for his money! (Steve)

Inhuman Deformity - *Compilation Vol 2*
(IDC Productions)
Usually I don't care for comps much due to the fact that most times you get two good bands out of the countless horrible ones. Not the case here!! This pro-done tape consists of eight bands doing one song each. The bands are Regurgitation, Ton, Adnauseam, Nox Intemesta, Inhumate, Abuse, Aurora Borealis and Unburied! The sound quality is very good and this comp is a good example of some fine Underground Death Metal bands that deserve some attention. (Scott)

In Flames - *Clayman*
(Nuclear Blast)
Just when you thought it couldn't get any better, it does! In Flames have bettered themselves from their previous masterpiece, Colony, with an emotional, ripping, "fuck yeah!" metal album! Clayman has a lot feeling to it with an abundance of early metal overtones. Reminiscent of Scorpions, Queensryche, and the power metal onslaught of the '80's combined with the heavy, technical, guitar domination of the 90's and you've got one hell of an album! Just like Colony, Clayman is great from start to finish. There isn't a bad song on the whole disc so buy this now and get your monies worth!! (Steve)

Intense Hammer Rage - *DevoGrindPornGoreCoreAPhile*
(CD '99/self release)
Judging by the title you should get a good idea of what style this band is going for...GRIIIINDDD!! These Australians hold nothing back and go right for the throat on their 18 song debut CD. You've got believe me when I say that

HAIR OF THE DAWG

Hair of the Dawg is a comical perspective on a dogs life. Chase, the main character, shows the reader the life of a dog through his experiences and interactions with the other characters. Whether Chase is on his own, with his owner Quinn, pal Gabby or his girlfriend Millie, ***Hair of the Dawg*** provides humor by adding canine insight into ordinary situations experienced by both pets and people.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Drawing cartoons and comic strips has been an integral part of my life since I was a young child. I was always interested in drawing and began receiving books on how to draw cartoons while I was in grade school. I spent more of my class time doodling and drawing than reading and writing, and found out that the only productive class periods were study halls. There I was allowed to concentrate on my work without the frequent interruptions of teachers and their educational agendas.

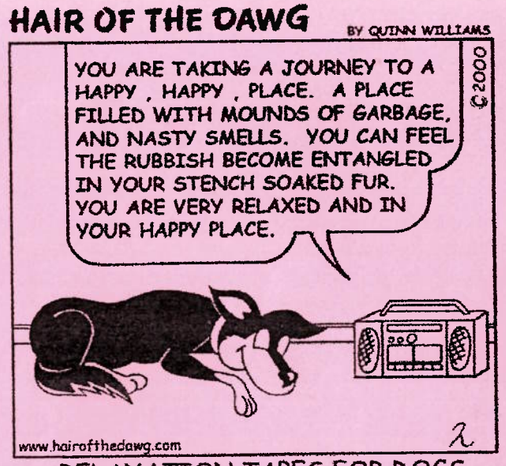
In 8th grade, I entered a contest for editorial cartoons in the local paper. My cartoon was chosen and my work was published for the first time. It was at this point that I began to take my work more seriously. I spent much of my free time working on cartoon strips and comic books of my own, while I constantly practised drawing new characters and creating dialogues. I continued my work on a somewhat limited basis during my military career, working on mascots, illustrations, and other projects for official and not-so-official business.

I first created my current ***Hair of the Dawg*** cartoon in 1997, but was not able to pursue it as vigorously as I would have liked due to work conflicts. In late 1999 I started putting more time and effort back into cartooning and decided to undertake ***Hair of the Dawg*** as a full scale project despite work, school, and other obstacles. In early 2000, I was published for the first time in the *Northland Reader* and shortly thereafter in the *Blue Dog News*. In June, ***Hair of the Dawg*** will be in the magazine *PROTOONER*. At this time, I am continuing to develop my work both technically and creatively while I seek a larger publication base and eventual syndication.

Thanks to Quinn for sending us some great cartoons! We will see more of Quinn's *Hair of the Dawg* and also *Fleaville*, an offshoot of the HOTD series. - *Editor*

check out his website at:

www.hairofthedawg.com


HAIR OF THE DAWG
BY QUINN WILLIAMS
YOU ARE TAKING A JOURNEY TO A HAPPY , HAPPY , PLACE. A PLACE FILLED WITH MOUNDS OF GARBAGE, AND NASTY SMELLS. YOU CAN FEEL THE RUBBISH BECOME ENTANGLED IN YOUR STENCH SOAKED FUR. YOU ARE VERY RELAXED AND IN YOUR HAPPY PLACE.
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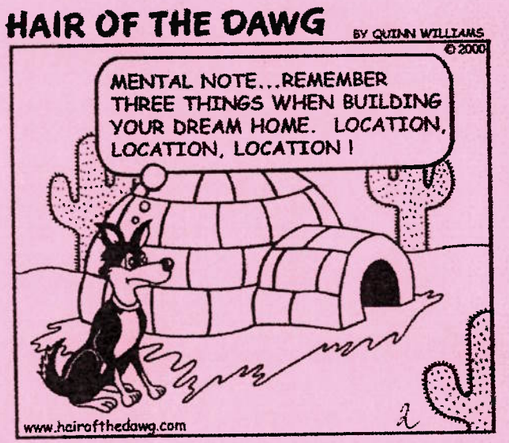
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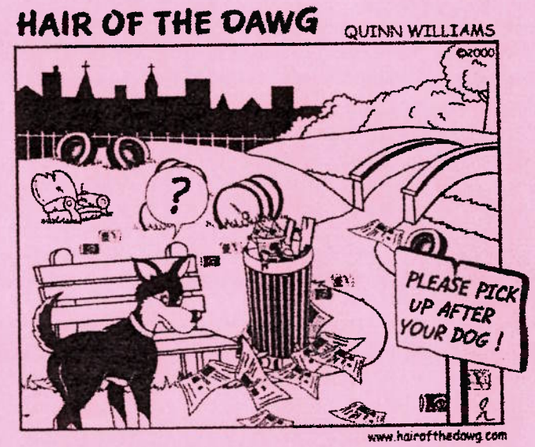

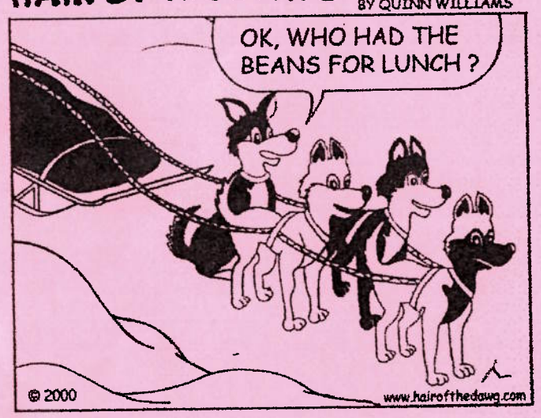

This is absolutely some of the sickest, most vile Grind in todays scene! Usually this style makes me bored after a few songs due to the monotonous shredding and blasting but IHR keep things flowing smoothly with their ability to play some hammering riffs when they slow it down a bit! Holy shit, even the vocals are pretty disgusting, they use several distinct ones to make things chaotic. Adding to the brutality is the use of funny ass samples to make you laugh your tits off. Production came out great for this kind of music! Don't think these guys are demented? What about titles like "There's a Baby on My Knob", "I Dreamt I Had a Vagina" or " Leaking Reeking Pregnant Cunt"! This is guaranteed to offend all!!! (Scott) **IHR 42 Studholme St. Burnie, Tasmania Australia, 7320**

Kabak - *Descomposiicion Cerebral*
(American Line Prod.)

Being quite an avid fan of all things sick and brutal, I found myself getting into these ten songs of gore. Kabak are from El Salvador and are the first Central American band my ears have heard. This isn't the best Death/Grind I've heard and at times some of the riffs sound a little generic but this trio did keep me listening due to their ability to write some decent tunes. I would recommend this CD to those of, you who aren't too picky and just want to own the sick shit! Beware, the song titles and lyrics are all in Spanish. (Scott)

Kataklysm - *The Prophecy (stigmata of the immaculate)*
(Nuclear Blast)

Napalm Death move over, Kataklysm is shredding their way to the top of the heap! Heavy, pit-stirring riffs with blast beats galore! An amazing release of solid, brutal Death Metal. The Prophecy is a defining album for Death Metal from the vocals to the guitars to the drums and everything else in song writing. With so much shit coming out these days it's nice to have some good stuff to listen to for a change. The Prophecy is an absolute winner! (Steve)

Kremush - *Deadly Conscience*
('99 EP/demo)

Impressive and unique ethnic Death Metal from Indonesia is what's in store here. Kremush are a trio who are fairly new to the scene and waste no time getting down to business with their five song demo. The music is death metal with a variety of good riffs and awesome changes. Vocals are in more of the Black Metal style as they are raspy and high pitched. If this sounds appealing to you, get in touch to order this pro-done tape. (Scott)

Kremush c/o Iyan P.O. Box 114 Purwokerto 53100 Central Java, Indonesia

LOCK UP - *Pleasures Pave Sewers*
(Nuclear Blast)

Lock Up is the love child of an era of metal that forged the scene of death metal. The souls of Carcass, Pestilence, Dark Angel, Death have been reincarnated with added vehemence. Blast beats that are just grating, along with a very familiar guitar sound. That may have something to do with the members of this band. Jesse Pintado (guitars), Shane Embury (bass), Nick Barker (drums) were all members of Napalm Death and are teamed up with Hypocrisy frontman and Abyss Studios mastermind, Peter Tagtgren. A lot of times bands that feature big names of past groups build your expectations and curiosity only to be soundly disappointed. Not here. This band boasts some hefty names and some rather obese material to back it up. Twelve songs of great, straight forward, poor-man's death metal with no effects, no fancy-shmancy keyboards, filters, etc. This is a must buy for fans of early style death. (Steve)

Lowbrow - *Victims at Play*
(Crook'd Records)

Lowbrow is easily described as the second coming of Obituary and where Allen West is the main man with this project it is understandable. Very moderate tempo, primitive sounding, back-to-basics approach to the new Death metal release from Lowbrow. The name says it all, so if you're looking for flashy solos or a technical masterpiece look elsewhere, Lowbrow is as raw and unrefined as they come. (Steve)

Malignancy - *Intrauterine Cannibalism*
(United Gutteral)

Heavy as fuck, Brutal death Metal is what you get here. Malignancy are a four piece with two members (Roger and Desmond) also in Mortician. There are several similarities between the two bands but Malignancy have their own distinct style for sure. This CD will have you hooked on its massive attack of intense Death Metal. From the actual songs right down to the production, this is pure perfection! (Scott)

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Massacres From the Jungle 3 - *compilation CD*
(American Line Prod.)

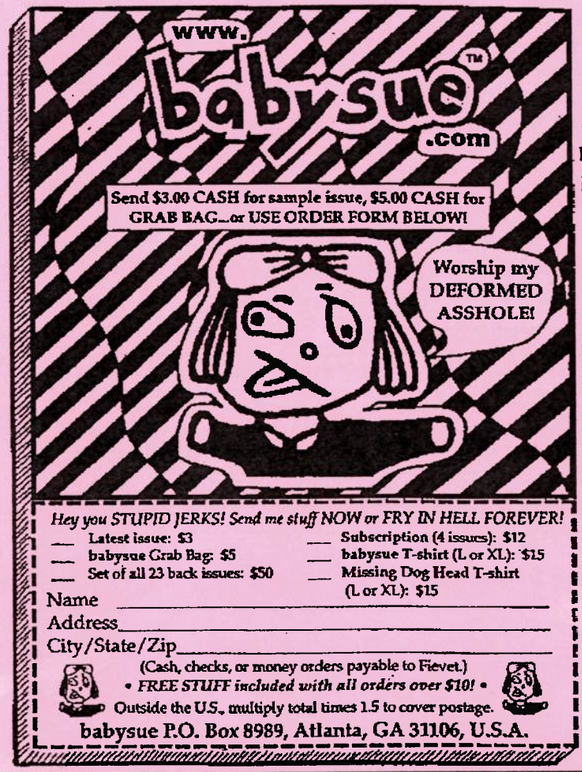
Here is a scene in Central America as this 15 song CD clearly demonstrates. For the most part it contains Death and Grind bands as well as some Black Metal bands. Some bands include: Kabak (El Salvador), The Zephyr (Mexico), Medium (Cuba), Necrofilia (Honduras), Malefica (Nicaragua) and more!! The sound quality for certain tracks came out really raw but if you have an open mind I suggest you check this out. (Scott)

Mayhem - *Grand Declaration of War*
(Necropolis)

This may be one of the more controversial albums by arguably one of the most controversial bands in music history. Not necessarily for its political position or their ever growing hatred towards Christianity, but for the mere fact that musically Mayhem seem to be suffering from an identity crisis. There is the expected trademark Black Metal sound but there is also rantings through the megaphone that sound more Gothic than anything else, there are also a lot of digital vocal effects and more mid-tempo tunes that just don't hit me as being Mayhem. Die hard fans may have a hard time accepting this as the REAL Mayhem. If you put all this aside and just look at this album for what it is and not WHO it is... you still might come up with the same assessment. The Mr. Roboto vocal effects bug me a lot as do the Goth-like vocals and megaphone effects. Musically it's pretty good. You have the Black Metal sound they are known for as well as more thought out, well constructed tunes that could make this a better album... if it weren't for the rest of the shit I've already spouted about. This is a real toss up for me, but I can say get rid of the techno crap! (Steve)

Night In Gales - *Nailwork*
(Nuclear Blast)

This is a pretty cool disc! There are elements from the whole spectrum of metal. Death, Fates Warning, Cyclone Temple, In Flames, Iron Maiden, EVERYTHING! This is one of the most complete releases I've heard in a while. Although each of these bands are much different from each other the one thing that they all possess is sheer technical prowess. Nailwork does not disappoint as long as you love METAL! (Steve)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Obtained Enslavement - *The Shepherd and the Hounds of Hell*
(Napalm Records)

OE feature a successful blend of Black Metal and earlier Death Metal. Gorgoroth's, Pest, takes reigns of the vocals. If it weren't for the vocals this would be considered a metal release but vocals usually dictate the genre bands get lumped into. No I'm not saying it's a bad point I'm just stating a fact. It seems when you get a bad release you get ALL bad releases and when you get one good one you get 100 more and if you haven't noticed there is an awful lot of good/great releases this issue; Obtained Enslavement keeps the streak alive! I would put this up with Old Man's Child, Children of Bodom and Coroner. Sorry man, it's good! (Steve)

Raise Hell - *Not Dead Yet*
(Nuclear Blast)

I think this band is hoping for a strong revival in the recent hair band resurgence to gain an opening spot for Skid Row. Besides some cool dance parts Raise Hell is very boring thrash with absolutely NOTHING new to offer. Not Dead Yet? Give it a little time, it shouldn't take long. This flat out sucks! (Steve)

Setherial - *Hell Eternal*
(Napalm Records)

Setherial are straight forward, no fuckin' around Black Metal with the chaotic soundscapes of searing guitars, sandpaper vocals and blast-phemous drums. Not for the weak. Not for the New Wave Of Black Metal. Satan's messengers of the forthcoming doom are, Setherial. (Steve)

Zines are very important to the scene and they are also vital to most bands who seek exposure. The following reviews are honest to me as I will not rip apart a zine no matter what. I don't care if it's on newsprint, glossy paper or toilet paper as long as it deals with underground stuff. Let's face it, who has a million bucks these days to have a zine look like People Magazine!!

Butalized #8 (final issue)

sadly this zine has come to the end. I have been reading this zine since #3 and Phil works his ass off to ensure you a quality read. This number has interviews with Vomit remnants, Skinless, Necrophagia, Dekapitator, Origin, Aborted plus a few more. He also has planted a ton of demo/album reviews as well as film reviews. This is packed with tons of info and a must read! (Scott)

Phil Nauman P.O. Box 886 Lebanon, PA 17042

Canadian Assault #4

This is actually a split issue with Eternal Darkness #13. Definitely a cool idea! Both zines are done well and are very informative. CA has Interviews with Immolation, Pagan Records, Damnation Records to name a few as well as many honest reviews of demos/albums/vinyl/ and Horror/Gore flicks. Dales layout is one of the best as he loves laying out each issue with pictures, logos, playlists, you name it!! ED has Interviews with Lust, Unpure, Vulpecula, Order From Chaos (from'95) and a Sadistik Execution pictorial from '97. I've read this thing about four times (maybe more!) so you buy it dammit! (Scott)

Canadian Assault c/o Dale Roy 6318 Bingham St. Apt.#1 Philadelphia, PA 19111

Unbound #6

Mike is a fast worker for sure! This guy packs his issues with some sick shit and pumps out the things fairly quick. Interviews here include Cenotaph, Aborted, Flesh Grinder, Dementor and several others. His reviews are pretty lengthy for the most part and you'll find some cool photos, contacts, etc. One hell of a Canadian zine folks! (Scott)

Unbound c/o Mike RR #3, Site 7, Comp.19 Thunder Bay, ONT P7C 4V2 Canada

Obscure #4

Obscure is a black and white photocopied zine that covers mostly the ongoings of the Thunder Bay Hardcore/Metal scene. Album reviews, zine reviews, show reviews, interviews with Seth of Anal Cunt, Jim Gorrie of Corrosion Zine and much more. There is also a lengthy section on the tragic death and gross injustice of Brian Deneke of Texas. Oddly enough just a few weeks after reading this, 20/20 did a big piece on it as well. Cool DIY attitude! (Steve)

Obscure P.O. Box 29061 Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6P9

There will be more Zine reviews in the coming issues!

CAN YOU RIGHT?

Well if you saw this heading and said, "What an idiot, this guy can't even spell!" then your off to a good start.

DFR is seeking writers to do interviews with bands, people in the music or comics/cartoon industry, editorials, rants, live show reviews, etc., etc.

If you love to write and love underground metal and cartoons contact Steve Nelson at 508.339.6012 or email at Dysfam99@aol.com

Some experience is preffered but not necessary.

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Dementia Records- P.O. Box 6205 JKB KG, Jakarta 11062-1480 Indonesia

Dark Symphonies - Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821

Necropolis Records- P.O.Box 14815, Fremont, CA 94539-4815, USA

Nuclear Blast America- P.O Box 1074, Canal St. Station, NY, NY10013

Relapse Records-1720 State Rd., Upper Darby, PA 19082

MIA Records- 315 Church Street 2nd FL., Manhattan, NY 10013

TeePee Records- 136 Lawrence St., Brooklyn, NY 11201

Moribund Records - P.O. Box 77314, Seattle , WA 98177-0314 USA

Napalm Records- 830 Pacific Ave. Suite #200, Bremerton, WA 98337

Medea Records - P.O. Box 99055 Troy, MI 48099-9055

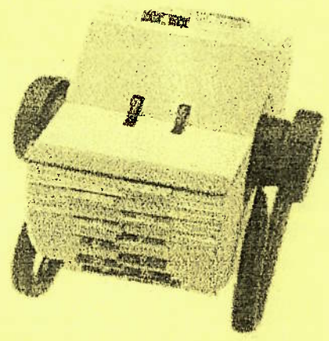
Crook'd Records - P.O. Box 25, Jamestown, NC 27282

Dwell Records- P.O. Box 39439, Los Angeles, CA 90039

Soul Sold Music - 554 Warburton Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701

Red Stream - P.O. Box 342, Camp Hill, PA 17001-0342

We will have more listings for you in the following issues so if you don't see the name of your favorite record label here, tell us and you'll see it in the next issue!



Siebenburgen - *Delictum*
(Napalm Records)

Black/Goth/Vampyric Metal that again would be really good if not for the overbearing female vocals waning throughout the whole album! It is my opinion (for whatever that's worth) that they should be used sparingly to accentuate the music not the other way around. Nix the chicks and Siebenburgen are a powerful Black/Death Metal force. They have a great guitar sound, great songwriting with a lot of feel and they have left themselves open to a wide range of paths to go in, they have not narrowed themselves into any specific category. It is not all the blast beat style of Black Metal (Setherial, Hecate Enthroned, etc.) it's mostly just heavy metal with the scratchy Black Metal vocals. Once again , nix the chicks and you've got a winner. (Steve)

Sinergy - *To Hell and Back*
(Nuclear Blast)

Let's see... chick singer...standard metal album title..."The Bitch is Back" for an opening track... I hope to hell this isn't a Betsy Bitch revival. The Metal gods have shined down upon us and refused that to happen! Sinergy are bordering on that Metal/Hard Rock category that should definitely garner some prime time airplay (hear that WAAF?!). Kimberly Goss fronts this metal machine with a vocal style that has a bit of Pat Benetar and Veruca Salt. Musically, Sinergy have In Flames overtones but have that classic Heavy Metal sound (Scorpions, Priest, Y&T) when Metal was just that, not broken down into 400 smaller genres or categories. Very melodic, crunchy guitars with pick slides, artificial harmonics and all. They have also included a cool rendition of "Hanging On the Telephone" just to add to your present flashback. Headbangers unite once again! Karen Crisis step down, Kimberly Goss is here with an entourage of true metal heavyweights. Request this on your local radio station and see what happens...THEY may be surprised! (Steve)

Sinner - *The End of Sanctuary*
(Nuclear Blast)

NWOBHM style with a strong resemblance of Accept, Maiden with Gillan-esque vocals. Maybe you'll see them on tour with Raise Hell, Sinner would be the headliner no doubt. At least this band has a clue not to mention talent. Yes this sounds like a late 80's/early 90's release but it is good and as I mentioned the sudden calling for the Motley Crue's, Skid Row's and Dokken's, Sinner may be able to ride the coat tails of these guys to taste the spotlight... maybe. (Steve)

The Sins Of Thy Beloved - *Perpetual Desolation*
(Napalm Records)

Another release in the Gothic Metal realm that goes overboard on the sirenistic vocals and also becomes a tad annoying with the abundance of violin "riffing". I won't lie to you, at first I really liked it but halfway through the album it was like," Enough already!". Taken in small doses TSOTB is enjoyable but go beyond that and you'll want to kill your whole neighborhood. Perpetual Desolation would be a pretty good pick if it weren't for those two major sticklers. Your choice. (Steve)

Soul Reaper - *Written In Blood*
(Nuclear Blast)

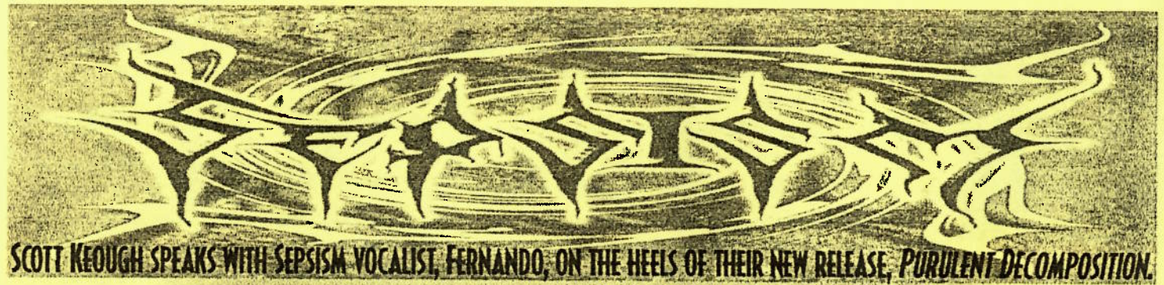
Tacky name, tacky album name, tacky artwork, brutal tunes! Similar in style to Cannibal Corpse and Morbid Angel, Soul Reaper bludgeon their way through seven songs of meaty metal. Written In Blood stays true to their Death metal roots which in this day IS something new. That is something that should be recognized and applauded. Check it out. (Steve)

Stratovarius - *Infinite*
(Nuclear Blast)

Stratovarius brings us back to the days of Yngvie Malmsteen, Fates Warning, Dream Theater and dare I say Queen? There is something here that just says "Queen" (most prevalent on Mother Gaia) although I can't put my finger on it. Yngwie obviously had the biggest impact on this band as noticed in the guitar work, keyboards, vocals and song structure. Where this excels Yngwie is that this project does not revolve around one mans ego, I mean guitar. This is a band effort and not just a guitar showcase which is one thing that always bugged me about YM. Enough already. Infinite is a masterful album and excels technically and musically. Some songs are more metal (Phoenix), some are more rock (Mother Gaia, A Million Light Years Away) but they are all very, very well done. (Steve)

Suicide Culture - *Hallowed Be Thy Agony*
(CD '99/ self release)

Thanks to the band for sending this my way. SC is a trio from Seattle who play anything but Grunge (YUK!). These guys play a real thick metal style which consists of some Thrash, Doom and almost Death-like vocals. The five songs on



SCOTT KEOUGH SPEAKS WITH SEPSISM VOCALIST, FERNANDO, ON THE HEELS OF THEIR NEW RELEASE, *PURULENT DECOMPOSITION.*

Fernando what's up?! What has Sepsism been up to lately?

How's it going Scott, hope things are going well. As for us, we are currently working in Sal (lead guitar) and Mando (bass), as well as working on some new material for our next album. We are again a five piece and couldn't be happier.

What bands have you been crankin' on your stereo as of late?

Honestly I've been listening to everything from metal to punk to Thrash to Death. I just blast whatever I'm in the mood for. There is never a certain band or bands that I listen to all the time.

When did the band form and what bands were you influenced by?

We started back in 1990 and were influenced by bands such as early Napalm Death, Death, Morbid Angel and other early Death Metal bands. We've been doing this for a long time now, but due to many setbacks, we were unable to crush the scene at an earlier time.

What made the band want to play such brutal Death Metal?

The more intense and brutal we make our music the more aggression we can let out. Fans of Death Metal live for heaviness so we supply it. It feels kind of good when you get off the stage after a set. You tend to relieve yourself of a lot of stress.

A few years back I ordered your "Sever Carnal Butchery" demo and totally flipped over it!! I gave it a killer review in my old zine (Mutilated Zine). How well did that demo sell and looking back, how do you feel about the material on it and how Sepsism has progressed since then?

"Sever.." sold very well for the number of demos we actually pressed. We only pressed a couple thousand. We will be re-releasing it in the near future as well. We are proud of the material. We still jam the songs live and everyone still digs them. The progression I see is that we continue to try new things and make them work and at the same time we stick to the roots. It's just a matter of expanding our creativity.

You've had a lineup change since the demo right?

We've had a few lineup changes as a matter of fact, that seems to always be our setback. From the demo only Phil, Leon, and myself remain. With the help now of Sal and Mando we hope to make a bigger dent in the scene.

Your debut album, *"Purulent Decomposition"* has been released on Repulse Records. I think it is a great album with old school touches of brutal Death Metal ala Suffocation, Malevolent Creation and Cannibal Corpse! How did you guys get the deal with Repulse and how are they treating you?

We entered the studio in April of '98 to record a 12 song full length album. When the process was complete we shopped the finished product to several labels. We received offers and Repulse had the best so we signed with them. Things are going pretty good but I think we expected more. We will continue to work with Repulse though.

Has Sepsism toured to promote the album?

By the time this issue is released we will have already come back from a full European tour with Sanitorium(Czech) and Intervalle Bizarre (Czech) scheduled for March. The tour is planned for 25 shows in 25 nights in ten or eleven countries! Hopefully a US tour will follow.

How well has the response been towards it?

The response has been nothing less than great! Hopefully the touring will pump out more sales and peak more interest in the band. Good promotion is all it takes. I believe in our music and I'm sure the response will keep increasing.

Could you please describe your form of brutal Death Metal to the billions of DFR readers (oooo, I like the sound of that-*Ed.*) who haven't heard you yet?

We just like to mix it up. Heavy, brutal, aggressive, tempo changes, influences, styles, etc. We like to keep it sick and keep the listeners full attention at all times. So if you are looking for something sick and brutal than look no further.

Who are your favorite bands and who do you think deserve to be signed?

It's not easy for me to name favorite bands because I listen to a shitload of bands, but to name a few: Sabbath, Metallica (pre-sold out), Slayer, Dead Kennedy's, Dr. Know, Bad Religion, Carcass, Napalm Death, General Surgery and the list continues. To tell you the truth I think most of the unsigned bands that I like are already signed. I need to get ahold of some new music.

What bands have you played with in your career, signed or unsigned?

To date we've played with Master, Divine Eve, Incantation, Kataklysm, Cannibal Corpse, Angelcorpse, Six Feet Under, Immolation, Internal Bleeding, Suffocation, Vader, Monstrosity, Oppressor, Obituary, Dying Fetus, Broken Hope, Deicide, Phobia, Napalm Death, Mortician, Cephalic Carnage, Origin, Lead, Disgorge, Infamy, Engrave, Deeds of Flesh, Excruciating Terror and Sadistic Intent.

I know you've been involved with the underground for a few years now. What is your opinion on the state of the scene nowadays as compared to the early nineties?

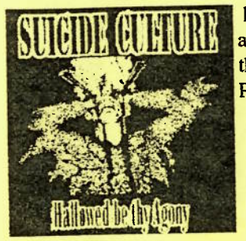
Things have changed a lot but we haven't lost yet. People seem to be into the mainstream bullshit a lot more now but the Underground scene never gives up and it will come back strong, I guarantee it.

What is in store for Sepsism in the very near future?

We're hoping to tour the US and just promote the hell out of the album. We will also be working on new material to enter the studio and record our next album. No date as to when we will release the new material but we still need to give *Purulent* more time to circulate.

Thanks for doing this interview Fernando. Any last comments to the readers?

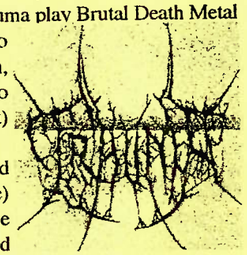
Thanks to you for the interview. We really appreciate the support. Thanks to all of our fans and supporters of brutal Death Metal for keeping the scene alive. Let's rise above all this mainstream bullshit and make our presence known. Stay sick!!



here have that live-in-your-face sound to them which is a good quality in my opinion. If I had to complain about one thing it would have to be that at times the vocal structuring sounded a little overdone. Oh well, this is still a good band I'm hearing for the first time and you should contact them at: Suicide Culture P.O.Box 70566 Seattle, WA 98107 USA (Scott)

Trauma - Extinction of Mankind
(Morbid Noise Records)

Indonesia has a ton of bands who play all kinds of Underground music. Trauma play Brutal Death Metal and they are definitely skilled musicians. Ten tracks are on this debut cassette to give you a fix of your daily brutality. Compare their songs to some of the early '90's bands (Suffocation, Cannibal Corpse, etc.) if you must but in no way is this generic. Take a chance on these guys as they do some justice for deadly metal. I distro this album so ask for it! (Scott)



Trauma - Torment Defined
('99 EP/cass. Morbid Noise)

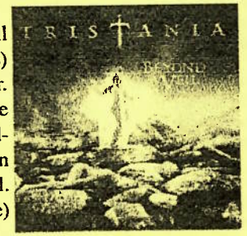
Vocalist Nino sent me this new six song EP to show me the progression Trauma has made since the Extinction... album. Well once again I'm hearing some great melodic Death Metal but with a better sound quality and a bit more groove as well. Track five is a Fleshgrind cover which is cool to do if you ask me. (Scott)

Nino Aspiranta
Komplek P.W.I. Blok 1#123
JL Tajuk Rencana, Cipinang Muara
Jakarta Timur 13420, Indonesia

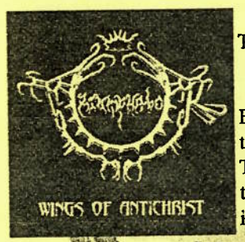
To/Die/For - All Eternity
(Nuclear Blast)

This is an awful lot like Darkseed, which I like a lot. TDF have more of the female vocals and overall vocally sound like Darkseed/Type O Negative. Gothic metal absolute with really no variance to any other genre. As good as it is there is not enough to separate them from other bands of this kind. (Steve)

Tristania - Beyond the Veil
(Napalm Records)



Now this is an amazing album! Tristania embellish you in waves of heartfelt sorrow and musical despair. Atmospheric, Goth, Death, it's all here. Anathema, Amorphis, Therion and Darkseed are just a few of the bands that come to mind when listening to this masterpiece. Dynamics and "visuals" you obtain are incredible. If you are a fan of either of the bands or genres I have mentioned you MUST have this disc!! So turn out the lights, stare up at the stars and become lost in this epic, you cannot go wrong with Beyond the Veil. Hail Napalm! This is KILLER!!! (Steve)



Triumphator - Wings of Antichrist
(Necropolis Records)

Hold on to your goat heads, Triumphator are raging out of fuckin control to a cauldron near you! Brutal Black Metal is the only way Wings of Antichrist can be described. Absolutely bombastic debut that shows the confidence and arrogance (in a good way) of a seasoned veteran.
This is by no means for the weak or for that kid that likes to jump on the bandwagon just to fit in because thats the type of kid that would slaughter his whole family with a pair of plastic Gumby scissors and say that it was because of the Triumphator album you made him listen to. (Steve)

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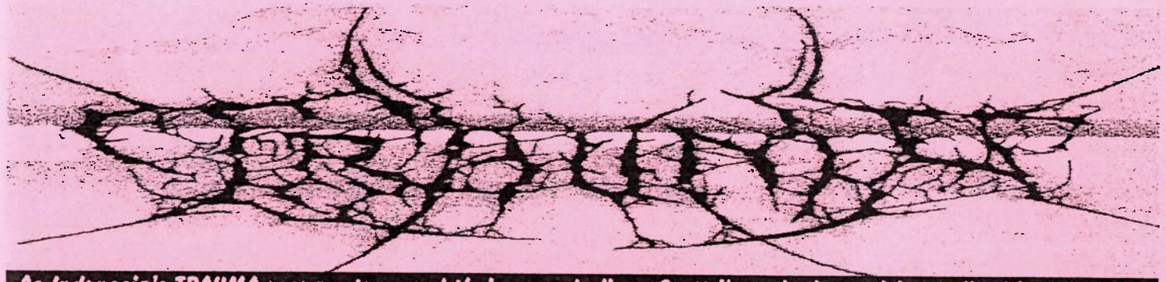


As Indonesia's TRAUMA prepare to record their second album Scott Keough chats with vocalist Nino about his band, 'zine, label, the Underground Death Metal scene and life in general.

Nino, how are you? How is everything in Indonesia?
I'm fine Scott! The situation in Indonesia is better now!

You are the vocalist for the brutal Death Metal Trauma. Please describe the style of music you play for the readers who have not heard you yet.
Trauma plays pure Death Metal meets Brutal Death Metal! Each member of Trauma has many influences. I myself am more into US Brutal Death Metal. My favorite bands are Deeds of Flesh, Fleshgrind, Lividity, Cryptopsy, Dying Fetus, Disgorge (US), Internal Bleeding, Disinter, Jungle Rot, Devourment and of course the mighty Suffocation. We play Death Metal with our own style.

Your debut album Extinction of Mankind was released on your own label in Nov.'98. What has the response been like for it and about how many copies have you sold?
The response is good enough and I'm happy with that. Yes EOM was released under my label Morbid Noise Records, and now we have sold almost 2000 copies. Besides that, Psychic Scream Entertainment has released that tape too, under license, in late 1999 for distribution in Malaysia-Singapore. They pressed 1000 copies. I got a letter from OWL Records (Illinois) and they said that they are interested in re-releasing EOM under license, too! Hey now we have a new EP called Torment Defined ('99) with 6 songs on it. We have better sound quality than EOM. We will record a new full length album in 2000 and will be out very soon!

"The Underground is my life" - Nino, vocalist of TRAUMA

Speaking of your label, when was Morbid Noise started and what have you released so far?
Firstly, Morbid Noise formed in 1996 as a zine, but after that, I thought I better do more for MN and I tried being a distro, organizer, and gigs organizer. The last zine is issue #7 (Jan 2000) and the biggest gig we ever made is called "Jakarta Bawah Tanah". JBT 1 was in Sept. '97 with 24 bands and 2500+ people. JBT II is in Feb. 6th 2000 with 40 bands and I plan to make JBT III in April 2000 with 30 bands. About releases, we are already doing Trauma-EOM, Trauma-Torment Defined, Confines of Human Flesh-comp#1, Indonesian Filthy Species #1, Agathocles-Mincemania in Indonesia and we are re-releasing Gore is your master-comp#1 (under license from Razorback Records) and many other bands on my next releases. Besides that I'm looking for bands that want to distribute their stuff in Indonesia under license from us! So... bands and everyone can contact us for doing that.

How is the scene in Indonesia? I've heard that there are a ton of bands over there and people are really into the brutal stuff. Does Trauma play a lot of gigs?
The scene is very strong! Yes, you're goddamn right man!
We have more than 200 brutal bands. Hey Indonesia is a big country with 600 million people living here. If you or anyone wants to know more about the Indonesian scene (Asian land of Brutal Death Metal) please write us!! Brutal death Metal is popular enough here. There is a gig every week that usually has 20-25 bands in every show. A small gig usually brings 500-600 people, but a big gig can bring 2000-4000! This is not bullshit! This is reality!!
And yes man, Trauma plays in many gigs in different cities here. Trauma has played about a hundred gigs 'til now and we will play more and more!!

What has been your best gig to play and where was it? With what other bands did you play with?
One of the best gigs was in Bandung in late '96. We played in front of 5000 fans of underground music. We played with other bands like Eternal Madness, etc.!

Has Trauma played in other countries yet?
Never! But we really hope to play outside my country in the future. We are bored with playing only inside my country.

Lets talk about the lyrics now. Being the vocalist for Trauma, what do you write about? Are your lyrics about real life triumphs and tragedies or fictional horror, gore stuff?
I wrote about the dark side of life and everything bad about the human race. I don't like to write about Satan and evil. All my lyrics are all about the real life triumphs and tragedies.

I also know that you do a huge 'zine called Morbid Noise. When did you start doing a zine and what made you want to do it? What were some of the first 'zines that inspired you to do Morbid Noise 'Zine?
Like I told you before, I started Morbid Noise 'Zine in '96. I do that because I really want to support Underground Metal music in any way I can. I'm really glad to do all that. My inspiration is Voice From the darkside (GER), S.O.D., etc. At this time, my favorite zines are Corpse gristle, Master of Brutality (Hol), Headfucker (Italy -RIP), Katopetia (Czech), and Brutalized zine! They are very cool zines!

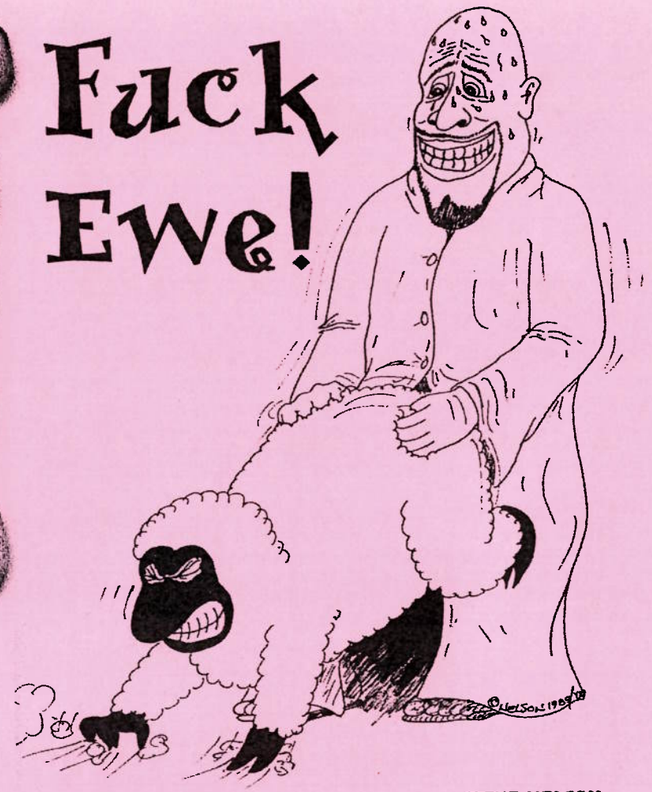
Between Trauma, your label and your zine you must be a very busy guy! Where do you find the time to do it all? Do you make a lot of money for all of your Underground activities?
Yes I'm very busy with Trauma and Morbid Noise Rec/'Zine/Dist./ Organizer, and compilation too! Hey I still study! I'm a college student and now I'm 23 years old. I always try to share for it all and of course I must have time for my girlfriend, too!! Yeah, I need a lot of money for doing all of my activities.

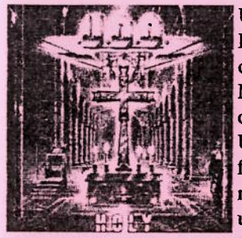
(cont'.d on page 22)

Here's a few things that just happened to find there way out of my head and onto paper. They have no real relevance and don't fit in with anything else I do. Guess I could call them ORPHANS INK.

-Steve Nelson

Fuck Ewe!

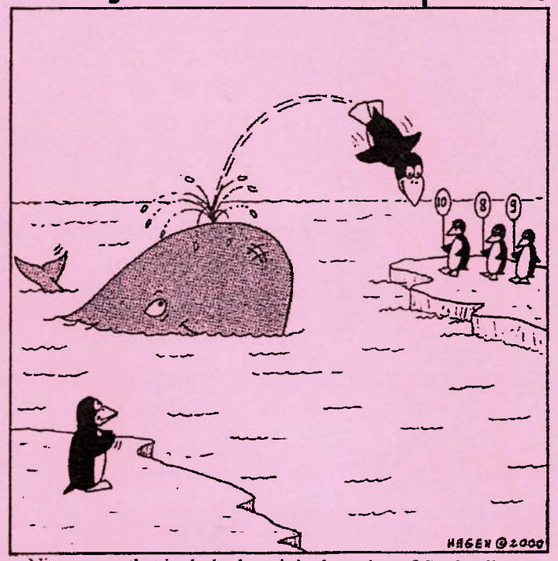




Udo - *Holy* (Nuclear Blast/ Breaker)
If you yearn for the days when Accept was dominant force in the Metal scene, than yo MUST subject yourself to the righteous wor of former Accept frontman Udo Dirkschneide Udo, the band, have that identical sound an feel as their iconic predecessor. and Udo , th man, brandishes the same vocal style that i undeniably Udo. I loved Accept and I lov this! (Steve)

Unhallowed - *Punch Fuckin' Blasphemy* (CD '99 self release)
This New Jersey based band are pretty good at the Death/Grind thing Not the most original shit I've heard lately but the 8 songs off this disc are played quite well. The music is chaotic Grind for the most part with a few slower riffs here and there. I like the use of vocals here a lot, one high pitched and screamed with a much lower sounding one on the othe end. For a debut CD this ain't bad at all and I think that whatever they put out next will surely crush! (Scott)
Unhallowed c/o Jenn Corrao 5170 Berkshire Valley Rd. Oak Ridge, NJ 07438

It's a Jungle Out There — Christophe Granet



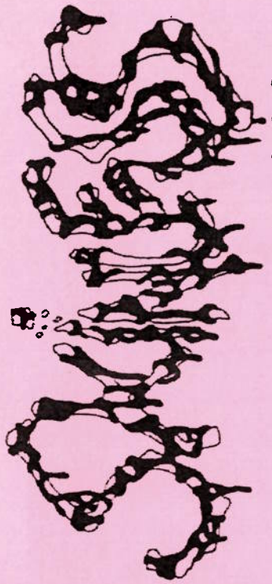
Usurper- *Visions From The Gods* (Necropolis)
This is a collection of rare, live and unreleased material including their 1994 demo. Nine songs that include the original version of Soulstalker, Wolflord (Night Prowler version), Blood Passion (live 98) and a really cool cover of King Diamonds "Charon". This is a really cool CD for the brutal Death fan but I must say I could do without the live tune. It sucks and it makes them sound like a bunch of kids just starting out in their basement. It is the last song on the Cd so maybe someone else felt the same way. (Steve)

Vanderhoof - *self titled* (Nuclear Blast)
Named after the founding member and ex- Metal Church guitarist Kurdt Vanderhoof, my initial response prior to listening to this was that it was going to be some weird Black Metal release judging by the name and cover alone. Man was I wrong! Not only was it not Black Metal it barely even enters the category of Metal . Styx and Cheap Trick are rampant influences here (maybe they should have called themselves Zander-hoof). 70's and 80's hard rock, take it for what its worth. Kurdt what went wrong?! (Steve)

Venom - *Resurrection* (Steamhammer)
Venom are back with a Metal album to rival their early years. Heavy, catchy riffs and song titles that made them so popular for so long amongst the legions of craving Metalheads and ultimately spawned one of the most destructive and darkest genres of music ever. "War Against Christ", "Black Flame of Satan" Disbeliever" and the title track are just some of the 14 songs you'll find here. This really is a strong Cd with the sound and power of early Venom. How could you pass this up? (Steve)

Vile - *Systematic Terror Decimation* (Dementia Records)
Here is another Indonesian band (man that country has some killer stuff!!) playing the brutal and aggressive Death Metal! Like other Indo bands Sadistis (reviewed last issue) Trauma and Kremush, Vile offer a good deal of musical terror. This eight song cassette throws some harsh blasting, deadly grooves and gutteral vocals at you. You won't hear anything totally new here but if you like bands like Skinless, Vomit Remnants and Repudilation (RIP) then you might enjoy this. (Scott)

Vintersorg - *Odemarkens Son* (Napalm Records)
I expected a very boring drawn out epic by the very bland cover art and the fact that are dubbedSwedens only Folf-Heavy Metal band. Well I havent been able to take this this disc out of my CD player for very long since my first listen. Many may be turned off by the vocals; all of the lyrics are in Swedish. I was psyched to actually hear a band sing in their native tongue. Vintersorg deliver a melodic, soulful approach towards Metal complete with all that made Metal what it is along with acoustic guitars, (Cont.'d on page 23)



This interview was originally going to be on our website. Unfortunately the site never fully developed, so some of the information here may be a bit dated. Nevertheless Scott Keough comes through once again with an interesting and informative interview with Noah Carpenter, guitarist of Skinless.

Noah, what's happening, how have you been lately?

Hey Scott I'm doing alright. I've been keeping pretty busy with mail and everything. Things are picking up for the band lately. Other than Skinless I work full time in a pizza place.

What's Skinless been up to?

1999 was a great year for us. We played all of the major US Metalfests including Ohio, March metal Meltdown, Milwaukee, New England, San Antonio and Texas grindfest. We were fortunate enough to be asked to tour the US with Mortician in Oct.'99 and we had tons of fun and made some new fans. Our "progression Towards evil" CD has sold in excess of 4000 copies and sales are picking up. We are keeping busy with shows around the Northeast and concentrating on writing material for a new album in 2000.

First off, How did you guys come up with the name Skinless?

It came from a grocery store ad for boneless skinless chicken.

What year did you guys form and please give us a rundown of all you releases to date including comps or splits.

I formed the band in 1992 with some high school pals. Our original name was Gorebag but we decided to change it since the word "gore" was a bit overused in Death Metal. The first few years were difficult due to lack of dedication from certain members. I think we only played 3 shows before 1994. I'm the only original member of the band left. I've seen a lot of guys come and go over the years but the current formation is easily the strongest and most dedicated. With this lineup we have been able to make progress-FINALLY!! Noah Carpenter (guitar/back.vox), Sherwood Webber (vox-1994), Bob Beaulac (drums-Jan1997), Joe Keyser (bass-Nov.1997. Demo 1994, "Swollen Heads" demo 1995, "Progression Toward Evil" CD 1998). Too many comps and splits to list.

Your progression Towards Evil is an all out brutal assault of groove orienented Death Metal. I think it has got to be one of the best CD's released in recent memory. How well has it been selling and did you think the response would be this great?

Thanks for the compliments on our CD. We are at over 4000 sold right now and it seems to be selling now faster than ever. No, I didn't really expect this sort of response. I knew that Progression would be a very important release for us but it's gone beyond expectations. Our two previous demos combined sold about 1300 copies and the CD has more than tripled that mark. We are learning how to get our music out there and we owe much thanks to everyone who has helped and supported us.

I know United Gutteral will be doing a 50/50 split pressing of the CD. How did this deal come about?

We were going to sign to United Gutteral but then we came up with the idea of a 50/50 split. We make most of our money off CD sales and if we signed to a label then they would see most of the profit. We decided to hold out and explore more options for awhile. With United Gutteral we've pressed 1000 CDs so far and they got 500 and we got 500. That's worked well so far. In return UG promotes us like we're on the label. So UG basically becomes our main distributor. With our combined efforts we've been able to pump more of our CDs into the Underground.

Skinless did a tour in the States with Mortician. How did you get the tour and how many shows did you do? What cities?

I believe that Mortician wanted to tour with a United Gutteral band and they may have personally requested us. Anyway we were the band that ended up going. The tour was for 18 dates throughout October plus one show in Albany, NY. Without Mortician the tour hit NYC, Cleveland, Chicago, Minneapolis, Omaha, St. Louis, Austin, Arlington, San Antonio, Laredo, New Orleans, Nashville, Spartanburs (SC), Garner (NC), Wheaton (MD), etc.

How were the guys in Mortician to get along with and how did the shows go?

Everyone had a great time and the guys from Mortician were really cool. We were already friends with their tour drummer George Torres from his former band Dehumanized. I hung out with Roger quite a bit and Evil Will would always go to the local gym and pump iron. The shows were cool. Most people hadn't heard of Skinless yet but in every city we got them moving. I think we made a good impression, the only frustrating thing for me was that I kept breaking strings. I guess I'm just too brutal.

What other bands did you get to play with?

Sintury, Anal Blast, Regurgitation, Reprobation, Decapitate, Sputumy, Maleficent, Brodequin and Waco Jesus and a few other good bands that slip my mind at the moment.

What is the scne like in Albany? Are there a good amount of clubs to play?

The scene is really good in Albany. The crowd is mostly Hardcore kids but they've always supported us. We are the only Death Metal band in the area but I think we're influencing some young bands. A few of the clubs have closed down or turned into dance clubs or some bullshit. There are still a few good places to play in the Albany area.

How do you feel Skinless differs from the other Brutal bands from NY?

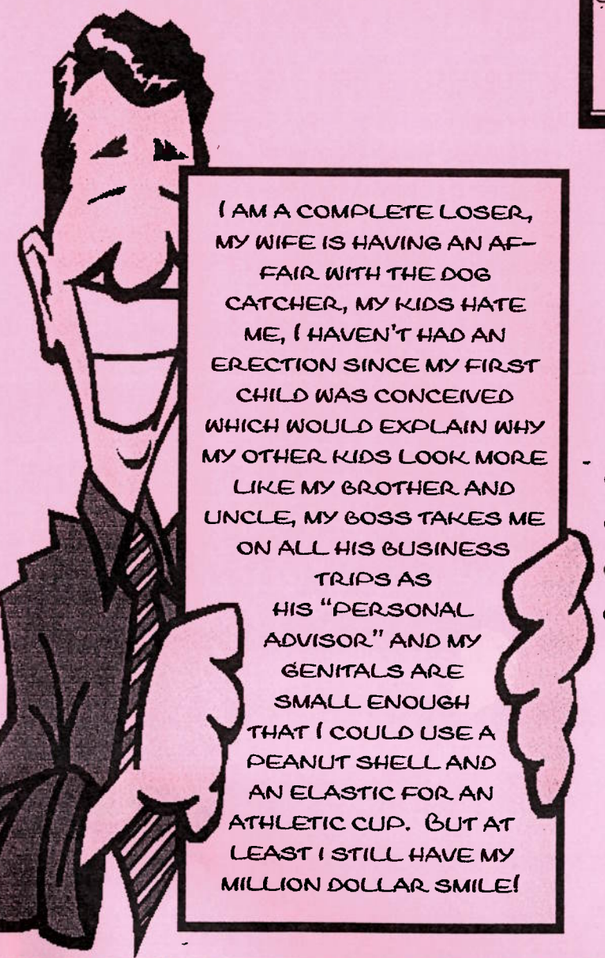
We always semm to clumped up with all of the NYC bands but we live about 2 1/2- 3 hrs north of the city. I think that we have more vocal diversity than some of the other bands. We use lots of samples on our CD that add an element of humor. people seem to love the funny samples. I don't know this is always a tough question for me.

(Cont.'d on page 23)

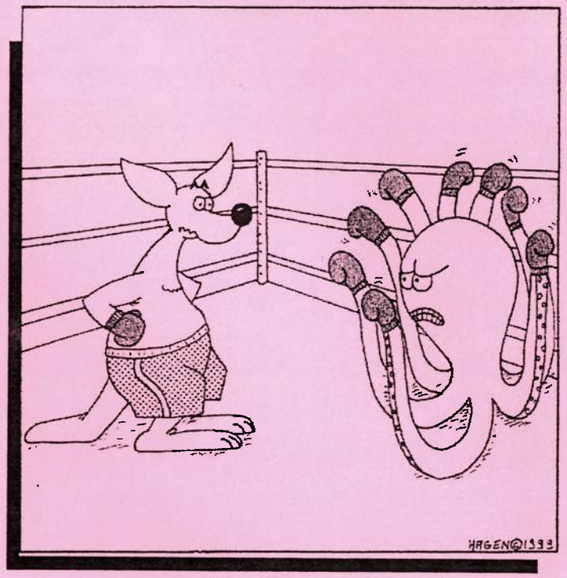
The CARTOONISTS RING

The Cartoonists Ring is a great place and the biggest i've come across so far, for cartoonists/artists to trade tips and info, check out each others work, make contacts, etc Check out the website at:

www.thecartoonist.com/ringhome.htm


I AM A COMPLETE LOSER, MY WIFE IS HAVING AN AFFAIR WITH THE DOG CATCHER, MY KIDS HATE ME, I HAVEN'T HAD AN ERECTION SINCE MY FIRST CHILD WAS CONCEIVED WHICH WOULD EXPLAIN WHY MY OTHER KIDS LOOK MORE LIKE MY BROTHER AND UNCLE, MY BOSS TAKES ME ON ALL HIS BUSINESS TRIPS AS HIS "PERSONAL ADVISOR" AND MY GENITALS ARE SMALL ENOUGH THAT I COULD USE A PEANUT SHELL AND AN ELASTIC FOR AN ATHLETIC CUP. BUT AT LEAST I STILL HAVE MY MILLION DOLLAR SMILE!

It's a Jungle Out There **Christophe Granet**



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(Cont.'d from page 17)

Who are your favorite underground bands and which bands in Indonesia do you feel will make an impact on the scene in the future?
Deicide, Cannibal Corpse, Regurgitation, Deaden, Prophecy, Ton, Neuraxis, Fleshfeast, Deranged, Gorgasm, Godless Truth, Vomit Remains, Anal Blast, Cephalic carnage, Skinless, Scattered Remnants, Impetigo. As for Indonesian bands... the most quality bands are: Grind Buto, Bloody Gore, Corporation of Bleeding, Tengkorak, Vile, Sadists, Delerium Tremens, Brutal Corpse, Death Vomit, Motor Death, Grausig, Slow Death, Rotten Corpse (RIP), Extrasensory, Torment, Jasad, Dajjal, Injected Sufferage, Morbifik, Disinfected, Wafat, etc.!! Brutal as fuck!

Have you started recording your second album yet? Will it still be released on Rotorcorp/Musica (Indonesian label) or will you release it yourself?
Yes we will start recording our second album soon! Mmmmmm, I don't know because now we want to get a better label. Musica/Rotorcorp is good. They are a major label in Indonesia, they can press 30-50,000 copies but the problem is that they have delays so we must wait and wait again. So we are looking for a better label that can release our second album. To anyone interested, please contact us soon.

Here in the USA we have a lot of technology, freedom, partying, etc. Most people work their asses off to get their paychecks and most of the time they are broke (HA HA HA!). It's pretty cool living here. What is life like in Jakarta, Indonesia? I know the postage rates over there suck!! What do people do over there for fun?
Not too different with your country! And yes, postage rates over here really suck!! For fun, Indonesian people have got many ways. Maybe they like traveling, going to the cinema, etc.

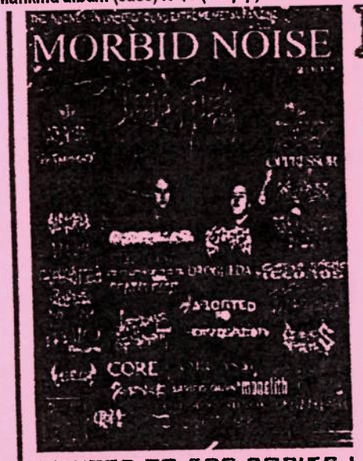
Alright, if someone asked you what the Underground meant to you, what would your response be?
Simple answer... "Underground is my life!" HA HA HA !!

Do you personally feel the Underground is in good shape and a lot of sick people are real supportive? In your own words, what do you think should happen in order to make our scene bigger and better?
Yes!! And for making our scene bigger and better, I think we must support each other!

We've now hit the year 2000. Do you see Trauma playing Brutal Death Metal in the year 2010? Do you also see yourself involved with all your Underground activities as well?
I don't know, but we hope to try to stay in Death Metal. Honestly, I want to play and listen to Death Metal 'til I die!! Death Metal is my life! I'll be doing all my Underground activities 'til I die, too!

Before I go is there any new information on Trauma that you'd like us to know?
I think that's all. We just want to start recording our second album. Besides that about 2-3 months ago we released a split with Agathocles and split CD with Unvailed. New T-shirts of Trauma is already out now and it's only $15 (US p/p).

Nino, thanks a ton for doing this interview in our pages. I wish you the best with Trauma and your 'zine/label!! Care to give the readers your final words?
Thousands of thanks to you Scott and Mutilated zine/distro for the interview!! You rule!! To all readers, please get in touch with Trauma. Our Extinction of Mankind album (cass) is $6 (US p/p) and Torment Defined (cass. EP) is $5 (US p/p). Stay brutal and keep Brutal Death Metal alive!!!



MORBID NOISE Zine#7

January 2000

MORBID NOISE Zine#7 Special BRUTAL DEATH METAL Issue ! 190 Pages A4. Featuring interview with more than 35 sicks band like: DEEDS OF FLESH (Usa), DISINTER (Usa), VOMIT REMNANTS (Jap), PROPHECY (Usa), SINTURY (Usa), FLESH FEAST (can), GOREROTTED (U.K.),DEPRESY (Slovakia), ABLATED REC., (Usa), CEREBRAL TURBULENCY (Czech), RAZORBACK REC., (Usa), OPRESSOR (Usa), NEURAXIS (Can),JUNGLEROT(Usa), CORPSEGRISTLERec.,/'Zine (Usa),CORE(Bra),KADATH (Ger), REGURGITATION (Usa), GODLESS TRUTH (Czech), BRUTALIZED 'Zine (Usa), AUTOPHAGIA (Greece), SOILS OF FATE (Swe), DROGHEDA (Usa), UNITED GUTTURAL REC (Usa), AGATHOCLES (Bel), ANAL MACABRE (Bul), LAST DAYS OF HUMANITY (Holl), DIVINATION (Usa), GORGASM (Usa), SEVERANCE (Usa), SANITYS DAWN (Ger), MONOLITH (Ast), PERVERSIST (Czech), ENGORGED (Usa), PATHOLOGY STENCH (Slov), CRYPT (Aus), ROTTING HEAD (Pol), DEMENTOR (Slov), CRANIAL TORMENT (Greece) & ABORTED (Bel) + Tons of reviews and contact address !!!! Price Rp.25.000,- (+Rp.5000 untuk ongkos kirim/Indonesia, US$ 4,- (+US$5,- for worldwide regsitared Postage Sorry, Postage rates SUCKS !!!) BRUTAL DEATH/GORE/DEATH METAL/GRINDCORE Bands needed for future issues and for "CONFINES OF HUMAN FLESH Comp. Tape #3" BLACK METAL/DOOM/NOISE/ GOTHIC/THRASH METAL Bands still needed too for the future issue of Morbid Noise zine. Everybody please get in touch now !!!!. Send your promo-packs (CDs/Tapes/7"..etc..Plus Bio+Logo and Photos) for a honest reviews and possible interview. Absolutely No Fuckin' Rip-Off here ! 100% Support The True UNDERGROUND.

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(Cont.'d from page 20)

Could you tell us what is in store for the band in the coming months?
We're going to finish writing material for our second full length CD that may be titled, "Foreshadowing Our Demise". It'll contain a mixture of new material and a few old demo songs re-recorded. Once again you'll find Skinless at most of the major US Metalfests in 2000. Sometime before summer we have to make a decision about a record label. We have plenty of offers and we'll pick what we think is the best. We've been approached by Ablated, Necropolis, Nightfall/Terrorizer, United Gutteral, Repulse/Extremities, and many more. We are shooting for Relapse Records but I don't know if they'll sign us.

If you don't get signed soon will you release another CD or a demo?
We'll release a Cd no matter what happens.

Thank you for doing this interview!! Would you like to add anything else in closing?
First off, thanks Scott for your support, it is much appreciated. Anyone into Brutal Death Metal check out our Progression Towards Evil CD. It can be purchased from us for $11 US or $13 world. Send cash or Money Order to :
Noah Carpenter/Skinless P.O. Box 829, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-0829
We have plenty of other merchandise available, too! **FUCK MTV!!!**

(Cont.'d from page 19)

gravelly Black Metal vocals (at times for effect), piano, and different things to make this a complete musical epic. "Svaltvinter" is one of my faves and where I usually get annoyed upon hearing the female vocals come in I actually looked forward to hearing them, but hey are only in a couple of songs. She has an exquisite voice that does not have that high pitched, frilly shriek. Hers is very calm, subtle, soft and comforting. I can't say enough about this album. Napalm Records has found a few gems and I intend to pick up Vintersorg's two previous releases, "Hedniskhjarted" (Pagan Hearted) 1997, and "Till Fjalls" (Up in the Mountains) 1998. Odemarkens Son (Son of the Wilderness) has a constant home in my disc player and I strongly recommend it to everyone!! (Steve)

Waco Jesus - *The Destruction of Commercial Scum*
(United Gutteral)
Attention all Grind freaks, this is the CD for you! This IL based band will surely secure a good size following with their pummeling, brutal debut disc. All ten songs here are well played and demonstrate some awesome songwriting ability. It is totally cool that almost everything on U.G. Records is the balls! (Scott)

Windham Hell - *Reflective Depths Imbibe*
(Moribund Records)

WOW!! Where have you been all my life! This is a guitarists wet dream. There seems to be a lot of Yngwie influence here on this instrumental Death Metal album. If Yngie Malmsteen and Chuck Schuldiner were mad scientists (some may argue that fact already), Windham Hell would be their Monster! As I have listened to this album over and overthose are the two names that keep coming to mind. The drums are weak sounding just as they were on Rising Force and the overall sound is a bit bright but as far as the music itself it is absolutely chaotic, melodic, frenetic and flawless!. My personal faves are "Cold Granitic Bliss", "Alpinia" because I love spanish acoustic guitar, and Salterello Presto. BUY THIS before ANYTHING else! (Steve)

Opprobrium - *Discerning Forces*
(Nuclear Blast)
Opprobrium is the new name for an old band whose old name is now a new band. Does Incubus ring a bell? How many of you were shocked to here the name Incubus come over the airwaves onlt to find out it wasn't the Incubus you remembered but some popy little rap fag band. Well the originals have returned with a new name, a new outlook and new material.....with an old sound. Thrash has returnedwith a fierce leader. Reminiscent of the days of Dark Angel, Atrophy, Autposy,and others Opprobrium are hoping to lead a revival of fallen Metal heroes. Top picks would be "Dark Entanglement", " Awakening to the Filth" and "Merciless Torture". (Steve)

Metal Church - Live
(Nuclear Blast)

Eleven songs of classic Metal Church featuring the ONLY singer of Metal Church, David Wayne. Excellent sound for a live album with all the good shit, Beyond the Black, Hitman, Ton of Bricks, Gods of Wrath, Start the Fire, etc., etc. Top off your Metal Church saga with this one . (Steve)

(Cont.'d on page 24)

Metal Dreams - Vol 2

(Nuclear Blast)

15 songs of metal, metal, metal! Everything from Stratovarius, Iced Earth, Mr. Big to Steel Prophet, To/Die/For, and Skid Row. It's mostly Goth, Progressive and Heavy Metal that actually tends to get very boring after the first few songs. So unless you're a fan of the bands on this disc I wouldn't bother. (Steve)

Power From the North - Sweden Rocks the World
(Nuclear Blast)

Fifteen of todays top Metal bands from Sweden covering 14 of yesterdays top Swedish bands. There are bands here that I have heard of but never heard, bands I have heard and loved and bands that I have never heard of period. Regardless, this is a great idea and an interesting album. In Flames does a cover of "World of Promises" by Treat, Lost Souls does a good job on Agony's "Deadly Legacy", Messhugah do a live version of "Attacked by a Shark" by Whimzy and The Haunted cover Candlemass' "Well of Souls". Yngwie Malmsteen is the only one to have two songs covered ("Desciples of Hel"l and "You Don't Remember, I'll Never Forget") by Southpaw and Glory respectively. Other bands include Hammerfall, Entombed John Norum, Europe, and The Crown cover Burnin' Leather by Bathory. There's a lot here to check out and you can tell these guys are having fun jamming on old tunes. (Steve)

AFistful of Rock n' Roll - *Vol.1-4* (Tee Pee Records)

Four volumes each containing 15 songs and 15 bands. You've got rock styles from Ramones to Danko Jones from Dino Lee and the Love Johnson to Black Flag to Romeo Void. This is more or less a four volume set of punk "unknowns" based upon each bands definition of what punk is. Nothing real crusty here, more commercial. Out of all 60 songs by all 60 bands there isn't enough good shit here to make one volume worth listening to though in my own opinion.. Vol.1- Candy Snatchers, Nutra Jet, Mud City Manglers; Vol.2 Snake Charmers, Haunted Head, Jones Crusher; Vol 3- Stunt Men, New American Mob, Sinisters, Vol-4 Murder City Devils, Graveyard School, Spitfires, Tricky Woo. (Steve)

Facial Defecation - *In God We Disgust* (demo)

Death/Thrash metal with a generic sound and pathetic lyrics. For as long as this band has been around you'd think they'd be a lot better than they are. I don't like it, Millie, I don't like it at all. (Steve)

Facial Defecation

Fuck the Facts -*demo*

They best thing I can say about these Canadians is that Release Records should pick these guys up. Death/Grind/Noise plain and simple. (Steve)

Fuck the Facts - 50 Rene Levesque Gatineau, PQ Jsp 6z5 Canada

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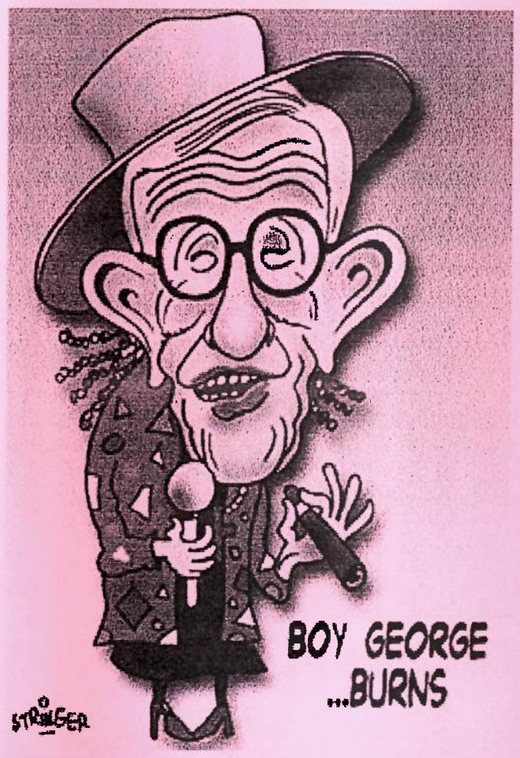
Savatage - *Ghost In The Ruins (A Tribute to Criss Oliva)*
(Nuclear Blast)

Criss Oliva, guitarist of Savatage was killed by a drunk driver a few years ago. As a tribute to his memory and accomplishments his brother Jon Oliva has put together some of the best stuff from Savatages early days. Twelve live songs from 1987 - 1990 from LA to Long Island capture the man doing what he loved most. A 13th track is maybe the most eerie, sound check at the Hollywood Palace just seems to give Criss that human element. Very well done all around, a great tribute album. (Steve)



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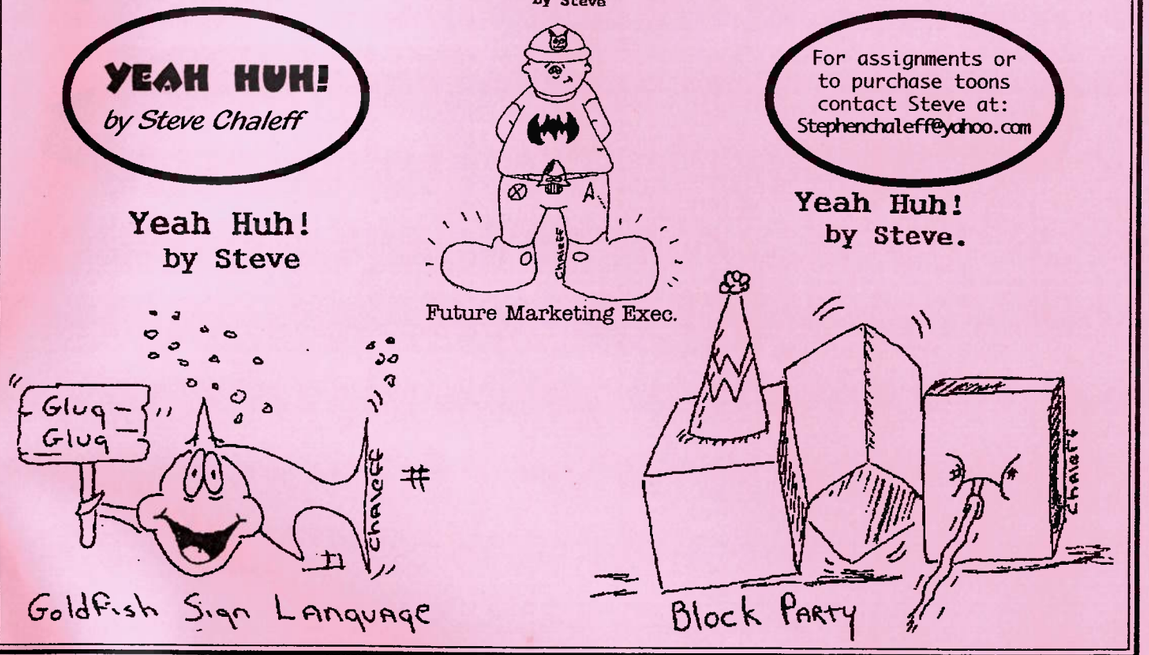
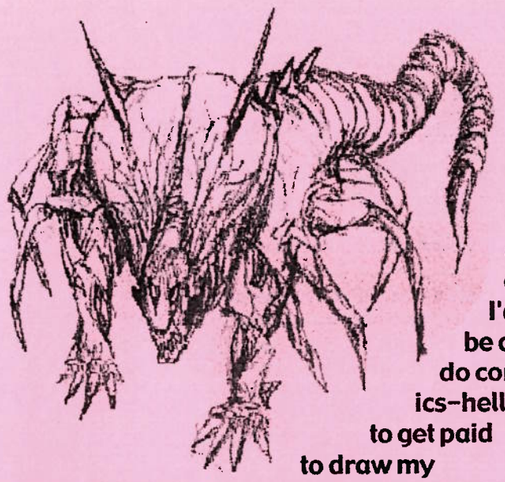
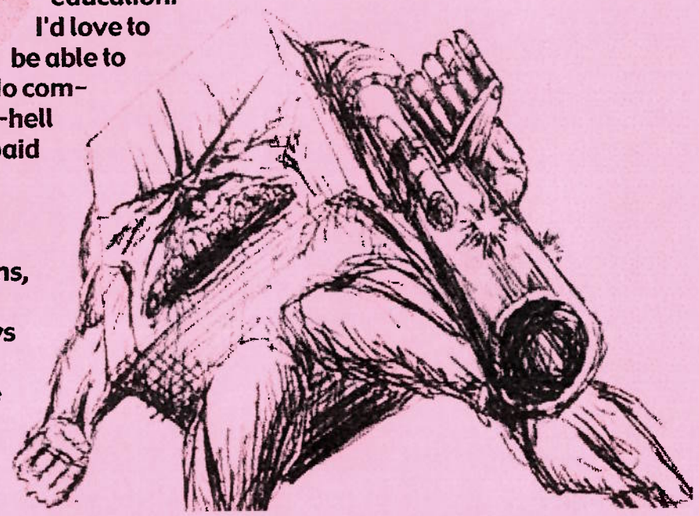
Yeah Huh!
by Steve



Phillip Else



I really haven't had much drawing "instruction", just been sketching in textbooks and on desks all through the miserable bain of required education. I'd love to be able to do com-ics-hell to get paid to draw my kind of shit would be heaven. And my kind of shit is DARK. Guys' heads exploding, ducks assassinating humans, demons eating brains, the stuff that all little boys thought of. I'll always continue to draw, I just hope I get good enough to make some money with it someday.

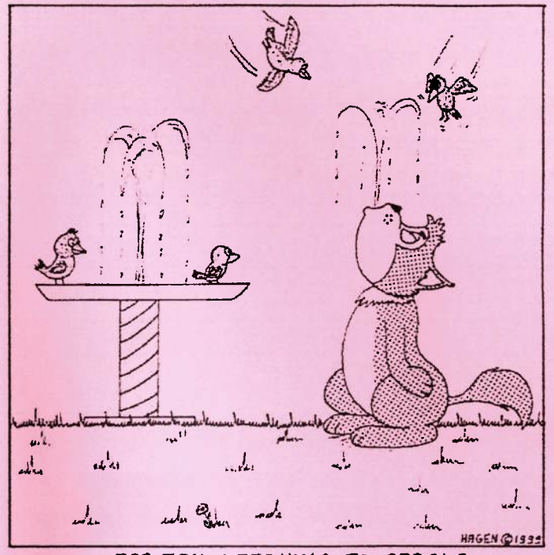


And yes, I sleep well at night...

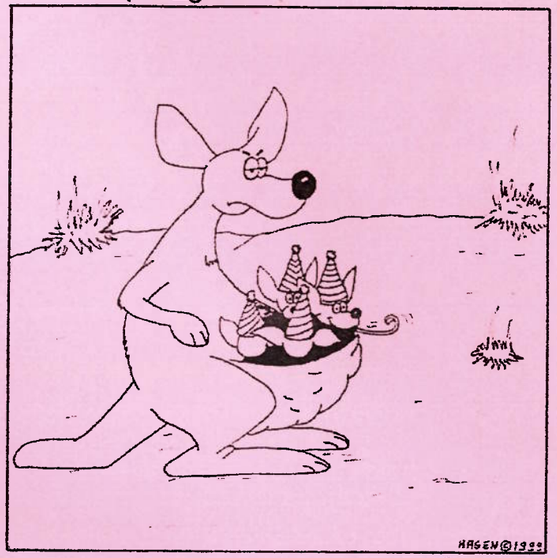
Phillip Else
4226 Chaha Apt 402
Garland, TX 75043
philelse@yahoo.com

IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE BY CHRISTOPHE GRANET

http//members.tripod.com/"christophe_granet/



FOR TOM, LEARNING TO GARGLE WAS FINALLY PAYING OFF !



WHY KANGAROOS HATE BIRTHDAY PARTIES

So far, "It's a Jungle out there!" has appeared in:

* The Heartland Care Group Newsletter (USA) (April 2000) (Cartoon No 65).
* The Foster Grandparent Program Newsletter, New Bedford, MA. (USA) (May 2000) (Cartoon No 67).
* The July 2000 issue of "Animation World Magazine" (http://www.awn.com) (Cartoon No 39

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Any questions, just ask! Contact Steve Nelson at 508.339.6012, email at: dysfam99@aol.com or by mail at

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